



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives offer our sincere congratulations to Betsy  
4 Hanisch, who was honored with the Elmhurst Jaycees' 2005  
5 Distinguished Service Award; and

6 WHEREAS, Betsy is well-known to residents and business  
7 people throughout the community; and

8 WHEREAS, She has selflessly given her service, time, and  
9 financial support to Elmhurst Memorial Hospital, the Elmhurst  
10 Family YMCA, Elmhurst College, the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce  
11 & Industry, and the former Elmhurst Economic Development  
12 Corporation; and

13 WHEREAS, Her efforts throughout the past 20 years has made  
14 Elmhurst a better place to live; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1985, Betsy left her job as a social worker at  
16 St. Therese Hospital in Waukegan to join her father's  
17 management team at Western Slate, a manufacturing firm in  
18 Elmhurst's industrial park; and

19 WHEREAS, Her tireless work ethic and keen intellect  
20 prompted her father to appoint Betsy his successor a few years  
21 later; and

22 WHEREAS, She served as Director, Executive Board  
23 Secretary, and Membership Chairman for the Midwest Association  
24 of Family Business Owners from 1991-1995; and

25 WHEREAS, In 1993, Betsy founded Fire Facilities, Inc.,  
26 which designed buildings for hands-on firefighting training  
27 under controlled conditions; the DuPage Area Association of  
28 Business and Industry recognized Fire Facilities as a Nominee

1 for Emerging Entrepreneurial Company in 1995 and again in 1997;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Betsy has been an active member of the Elmhurst  
4 Economic Development Commission since its inception in 1994,  
5 and has served on the Commission as Director, Marketing  
6 Committee member, Annual Meeting Chairman, Membership  
7 Committee member, Executive Board Secretary, Vice Chairman,  
8 and Chairman; and

9 WHEREAS, Betsy has also been an active member in the  
10 Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce & Industry where she served on the  
11 Board of Directors, two Executive Director Search Committees,  
12 twice-chaired the Industrial Committee, and has been as  
13 Ambassador since 1991; and

14 WHEREAS, The Chamber of Commerce & Industry has honored her  
15 as one of 10 Outstanding Businesswomen in 1997, Ambassador of  
16 the Year in both 1991 and 1998, and with both the "Tee Off for  
17 Toche" Good Works Award and Chairman's Award in 2001; and

18 WHEREAS, She has relentlessly given her time and energy to  
19 help the Elmhurst Family YMCA since 1998, serving on the Annual  
20 Dinner Committee as a member and as a Chairperson, as well as  
21 on the Board of Directors and holding the position of Executive  
22 Board Secretary and Chairman; and

23 WHEREAS, Betsy has also donated her time to Elmhurst  
24 Memorial Hospital, acting as member of the Board of Governors  
25 and Foundation Trustees since 1995, and as Vice Chairman of the  
26 Foundation Board since 1998; she has contributed her expertise  
27 on hospital committees, including the Corporate Annual Giving  
28 Fund, Guild Gala Fundraiser Committee, Quality Resource  
29 Management Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and Golf  
30 Classic as founder and chair; and

1           WHEREAS, She continues to be active with her alma mater,  
2           Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where President  
3           Gregory Campbell presented her with its Distinguished Alumni  
4           Service Award; and

5           WHEREAS, Elmhurst College has also benefited from her  
6           commitment to the community, where she volunteers as a mentor  
7           for the Center for Professional Excellence Mentoring Program;  
8           and

9           WHEREAS, In 2002, The Business Ledger and National  
10          Association of Women Business Owners recognized Betsy with  
11          their Influential Women in Business Award; and

12          WHEREAS, Betsy has donated countless hours to improve all  
13          aspects of the City of Elmhurst; and

14          WHEREAS, Betsy's dedication to the community is a source of  
15          inspiration to the entire city and State; therefore, be it

16          RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17          NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
18          we do hereby offer our congratulations to Betsy Hanisch; and be  
19          it further

20          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21          presented to Betsy Hanisch.